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**STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF THE NEPALI
DELEGATION TO THE SIXTY-FIRST SERIES
OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF MEMBER STATES OF WIPO
(21-25 SEPTEMBER 2020)**



**Permanent Mission of Nepal to the United Nations and
other international Organizations
Geneva, Switzerland**

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**Statement by H.E Mani Prasad Bhattarai, Ambassador/PR of
Nepal at the Sixty-First Series of Assemblies of Member States of
WIPO, Geneva, 22 September 2020**

**Mr. Chair,
Mr. Director General
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates**

My delegation aligns with the statement delivered by Singapore on behalf of the Asia-Pacific Group.

My delegation appreciates the outgoing Director General Mr. Francis Gurry for presenting the consolidated report of the activities carried out by the Organization since he assumed office in 2008.

While wishing the outgoing DG all the success for his future endeavors, I congratulate and extend warm welcome to the incoming Director-General Mr. Daren Tang.

In the ongoing pandemic situation, we witnessed severe impacts on the activities of WIPO. Nonetheless, we successfully concluded the extraordinary session to elect the new DG and the 31st session of the PBC.

Mr. Chair,

We still have some longstanding issues to be sorted out, such as global norm setting of TK, TCE and GRs as well as the Broadcasting Organization Treaty and Design Law treaty, which we believe would be taken up by the new DG.

The issue of External Offices needs to be resolved in an amicable manner in line with the 2015 GA guiding principles.

In the context of the pandemic, WIPO Development Agenda are crucial. We request the office for special support program to developing countries, in particular the LDCs, in terms of technical assistance, innovation and capacity building to build back better and enable them for timely achieving SDGs. Nepal commends the Office for providing technical support and funding to ensure participation of delegates.

I thank you!